Food and Consumer Safety
online complaints received in 2019

Complaints by category

- Food service: 211
- Lodging: 26
- Packaged food: 15
- Body Art: 10
- Other: 10
- Pools and spas: 8
- Mobile home parks: 4
- Mold: 4
- Pests: 4

Food service includes restaurants, bars, bakeries, meat markets, and delis. Of the 211 food service complaints, 87 mentioned food poisoning or symptoms. Food poisoning generally takes 8-48 hours to hit. The culprit is usually not the last thing you ate prior to becoming sick.

Complaints by county

- All complaints
- Involved illness
- Sought medical treatment

3 of the 4 complaints involving mobile home parks were about animals at large. Pets must be kept on a leash or in a yard.

What happens after a complaint is made?

- Complaint is received
- Complaint is forwarded to health jurisdiction or applicable regulatory authority
- FCS provided technical assistance when needed
- Complaint is followed up on, usually within 24 hours
  * onsite visit to verify validity of complaint
  * Appropriate action is decided on, which could include: education, closure, or correcting the violation on site.

There were 7 complaints involving bed bugs. Some were submitted as lodging complaints, others as pest complaints.

After many years of not being present in Montana, there have been several confirmed infestations in the state.

Complaints of operating without a license by category

- Food service: 5
- Packaged food: 5
- Other: 2
- Body art: 0

137 of all complaints received reported an illness. Of those, only 17 sought medical attention.